

The Great War-1311th Day

Trench Raids
On West Front
Grow Daily

German Feints Seen as Preliminary to Important Operations

Berlin Statement
Claims SuccessesHaig Dispatches Describe
Victorious Assaults on
Teuton Positions

LONDON, March 2.—Vast enemy trench-raiding activities at many points on the West front have developed within the last twenty-four hours. Taken as a whole, they surpass any previous activity of the year.

Unless the usual signs fall, these raids are a combination of feints and quests for information about the disposition of the Allied forces, which constitute the prelude to important action. The promised great German offensive soon may be under way, military observers here agreed to-day.

The German official statement to-day did not claim any important advance as a result of these operations. The most successful in point of prisoners taken, according to the enemy account, was an attack south of Haucourt, on the west bank of the Meuse, near Verdun. Four hundred prisoners and a large number of machine guns were captured, the statement said, but the ground occupied was immediately given up and the companies who had assaulted returned to their old positions.

Parts of the line southeast of Toul, where the French on February 13, with American guns cooperating, were recaptured by Haken and Thuringian units, Berlin stated, and held in the face of a French counter-attack.

East of Rheims the ruins of Fort Pompelle were entered by Hessian troops, the enemy statement declared, and northwest of Proseme, Rhineland and Westphalian detachments penetrated French trenches.

On the British front, the communiqué said simply, prisoners were brought in as a result of raids near Hobbekke and south of St. Quentin. The day statement from Field Marshal Haig, however, put a different aspect on the operations against the British.

Haig revealed that the enemy's attempts were costly and unsuccessful. A hostile party attacked Portuguese troops on a wide front from Neuve Chapelle northward after a heavy bombardment, he stated, but an immediate counter-attack drove the Germans out of all the trenches they had entered.

In a raid near Hargicourt only a few Germans succeeded in reaching the British trenches, and these were all killed or captured.

Attacks near the Ypres-Comines Canal and south of Houthoult Forest were repulsed with loss, and a few prisoners and a machine gun were taken by the British.

Two hostile raids in the St. Quentin sector, Haig said, netted the enemy a few prisoners.

Norfolk troops killed or took prisoners a number of the Teutons in a successful night raid south of Armentieres and other prisoners were captured by patrols near Arleux-en-Gohelle.

The attacks on Pershing's men north-west of Toul were only one of a dozen incidents of equal or greater importance on the West front which showed to-day the armies are waking from the long comparative inactivity of the winter.

According to an official statement issued here, British fliers dropped dozens of bombs Thursday night on big enemy airbases midway between Tournai and Mons and on cantonments near Douai. The assailants returned without loss.

John Redmond Improving
LONDON, March 2.—John Redmond, the Irish leader, upon whom an operation was performed yesterday, passed a fairly good night. His progress is being maintained.

Argentina Strikers
Killed by Soldiers

International Trains to Chile Held Up and Telegraph Lines Cut

BUENOS AIRES, March 1.—Two persons were killed and several others wounded during fighting between troops and strikers at two points on the Pacific Railway to-day. The strike was declared a few days ago without warning, shortly after another strike which affected this line had been brought to an end by President Iri-goyen. The destruction of property has been in progress ever since the men quit work.

Operation of the international trains between Argentina and Chile has been rendered impossible by the strike, and the cable lines from the United States by way of Valparaiso have been cut. The government is expected to take drastic action, as the strikers are held in contempt of the President's recent decree ordering the men to continue working until the government had arbitrated their differences with the railway.

On the evening of Congressional elections Sunday, there are persistent rumors of a radical shake-up in the Argentine Cabinet immediately after the election. All rumors agree that Hon. Pueyrredon, who has been Acting Foreign Minister for more than a year, will be Foreign Minister.

Would Tell Soldiers
Families Get Aid

Should Know Loved Ones Are Cared for, Says Red Cross Director

ATLANTIC CITY, March 2.—Pointing out that the American soldiers leave home for the duration of the war once they embark on a transport for the war zone, while the men of the Allies, closer to their homes, get leaves of absence for two weeks in every three months, Frank W. Parsons, director of the Civilian Relief for the Red Cross, appealed to the members of the American Home Economics Association and National Education Association in final session of the war convention at the Hotel Traymore to-day. He asked for aid to sustain the morale of the men in the service by giving them assurance that their families are well cared for during their absence.

"We have established 43,000 chapters of the Red Cross home service," said Director Parsons, "whose particular duty it is to see that the home life is not menaced and to enlist all who remain at home in a campaign to see that the children continue in school and are not drawn out into industrial life without proper education and training. Others should not be compelled to abandon care of their families to earn a living."

"Right home conditions can immensely improve the morale of our boys at the front. It is utterly useless to expect a man to fight when he is worried over his loved ones back home," he said.

Cherine J. Mackay, of Iowa College, Ames, Iowa, was selected president of the Economics Association.

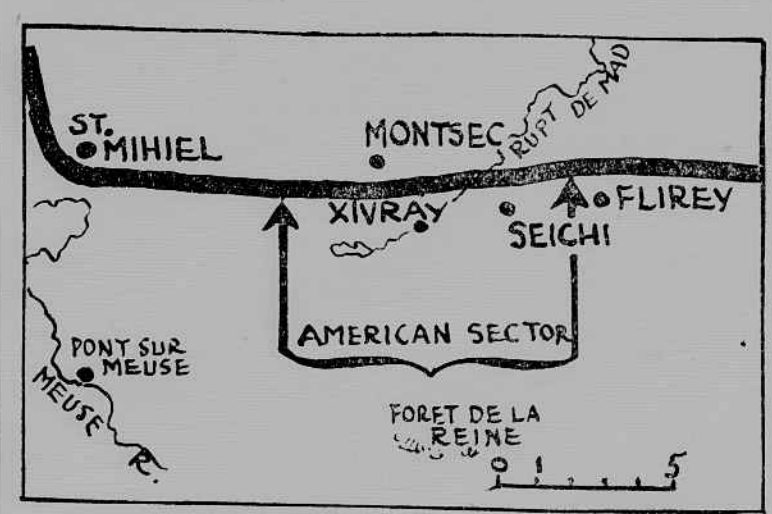
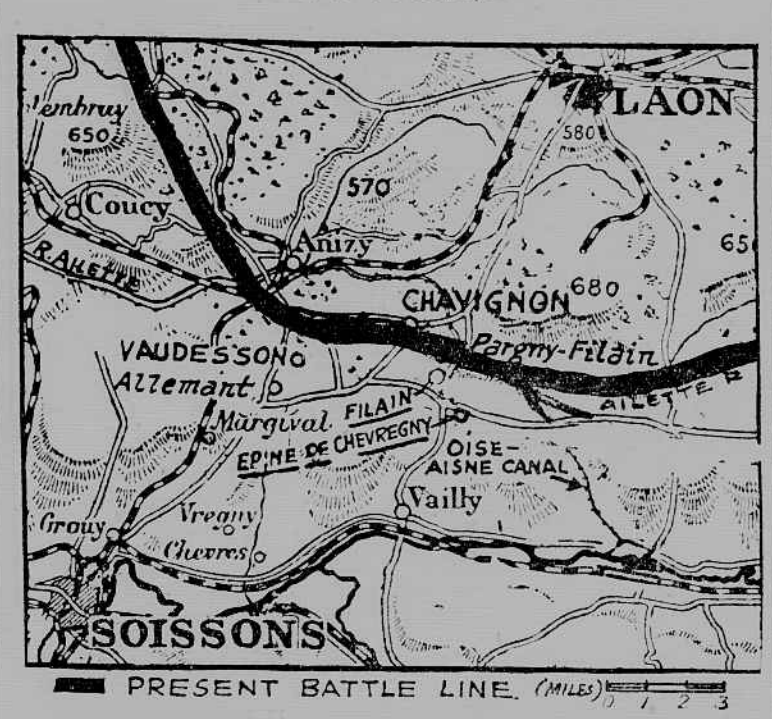
American Receives
French War Cross

Lieutenant Nourse Promoted After Citation for Honor He Cannot Accept

WASHINGTON, March 2.—R. L. Nourse, jr., of Boise, Idaho, a Princeton student serving with the American Ambulance in France, has been cited by the French government to receive the Cross of War for valor in service. The Cross of War for valor in service has been cited in French army general orders for the cross for bravery under fire and devotion to duty while wounded. The decoration, which, under the law, Lieutenant Nourse cannot accept, has been forwarded to the War Department.

The citation follows: "Lieutenant R. L. Nourse, a courageous and faithful officer, who, exposing himself without thought of personal danger in order to assure the evacuation of wounded French soldiers, was overtaken by a bombardment of gas shells while making a reconnaissance on January 12, 1918, his face and right eye being severely burned by the poisonous gas. He refused to be removed, and continued to direct his section during the whole occupation of the sector."

On cable recommendation of General Pershing, Nourse, on October 2, was commissioned a first lieutenant.

TWO POINTS WHERE AMERICANS BATTLED
HAND-TO-HAND

The upper map shows the "elbow" in the West front just east of which American troops are mixed with the French for training purposes. Near Chavignon two German raiding columns attacked at 8 o'clock Thursday night, suffering heavy losses but carrying off ten Americans and a few French prisoners. Some Germans were taken prisoner by the Allies.

The lower map shows the all-American front northwest of Toul, in French Lorraine, where the Germans assaulted Friday. A sanguinary grapple followed and the ground was strewn with enemy dead. Three Germans were taken prisoner and Berlin stated to-day the raiding party brought back twelve Americans.

Official Statements

East GERMAN
BERLIN, March 2 (DAY).—In Estonia and Livonia our operations are taking their course.

General von Linsingen is following up the enemy, who was defeated near Rychiatka. We captured some prisoners. Kiev, capital of the Ukraine, has been liberated by Ukrainian and Saxon troops.

AUSTRIAN
VIENNA, Friday, March 1.—In response to repeated appeals by the governments and the population, which have been especially pressing during the last few days, General von Boehm-Ermoloff's troops yesterday entered Podolia for friendly interventions. They have reached the line of Novo Silecia-Chofin and Kamenets-Podolsky. Detachments advancing along the railroads and important roads have been instructed to re-establish order in the regions through which they pass and to protect commercial routes needed for importation.

So far about 10,000 Russians have laid down their arms, and considerable quantities of ammunition, with carts and rolling stock have been saved.

West GERMAN
BERLIN, March 2.—Army group of Prince Rupprecht.—The activity of the fighting was revived in a few sectors in the evening. We brought in prisoners as a result of raids near Hobbekke and south of St. Quentin.

Army group of the German Crown Prince.—At many points we made successful raids. East of Rheims Hessian troops forced their way into Fort Pompelle, which had been destroyed.

Northwest of Proseme Rhineland and Westphalian troops penetrated far into the enemy's positions. Sections of trenches southeast of Tathure, which had remained in the enemy's hands since the fighting of February, were cleared by Baden and Thuringian troops.

On the west bank of the Meuse Rhineland troops captured a machine gun.

Find Belgian People
Determined to Win

Red Cross Leaders Return From Front Impressed by Courage and Optimism

(By The Associated Press)
WITH THE BRITISH ARMY IN BELGIUM, Friday, March 1.—General Elliot Wadsworth, of Boston; Colonel Ernest Ricknell, of Chicago; Major Irvy Leo, of New York; Major Van Schalk and Major Simmons, all of the American Red Cross, have just completed a visit to the Belgian front.

"Our experience has been most inspiring," said General Wadsworth. "Above all, we were impressed by the splendid courage and optimism of every one, from generals in command of armies to children who are staying on farms and studying in schools within the sound of the German guns. The cheerfulness of the soldiers, the determination of the people to see the struggle through to a successful conclusion and to free Belgium—these are circumstances which strike the American visitor forcibly."

"We were especially impressed by the care Belgium is lavishing on the children, uprooted from their homes by war, and by the splendid organization of the hospitals, both military and civilian. In fact, the efforts of every one, from the King and Queen downward, should be an object of admiration on the part of the American people."

England to Grow Flax
Because of the disorganized condition of affairs in Russia when ordinarily comes much of the flax used in the construction of aeroplanes wings and in other manufactures, the government will undertake to stimulate the flax industry at home. It is planned to have 10,000 acres cultivated and to pay for the crop, seed and straw, at the rate of \$42 per half ton. Flax-growing was once an important industry in England, but for some time it has been neglected.—Pathfinder.

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Surprise Is Only Hope of Foe
In Use of Gas on U. S. Troops

Men Are Supplied With Most Efficient Masks in Existence —If They Get a Few Seconds to Put Them on They Will Not Be Affected

WASHINGTON, March 2.—Recent American casualties in a gas attack illustrated the experience of all the European armies, that the success of the barbarous weapon revolved by the Germans largely was dependent on surprise, since improved masks have eliminated all danger, if the men have time to put them on. The Americans were caught asleep or before they were able to adjust their masks, which a statement to-night by the gas defense service of the medical department declared to be the most efficient in existence.

Gas masks now are being manufactured at a rate which insures an ample supply for the troops abroad and for training at home, says the statement. Many factories, turning from peace to war work, are producing masks of the approved type, and in addition a government plant employing 4,000 persons will be in operation to do the more difficult sewing operations on the face piece.

Full Equipment for All
The determination of the government that no American shall go into the trenches without full equipment will prevent the harrowing experiences suffered by the Canadians at Ypres in April, 1915, when the Germans first called to their aid the weapon outlawed by the Hague Convention.

Cotton fabric, carefully rubberized, cut to fit various types of faces, forms the facepiece of the American mask and is held in place by elastic bands over the head. The ears are left uncovered, and sight is provided through celluloid or glass eyepieces. A canister filled with secret chemicals is carried in a small knapsack and connected with a flexible tube which goes into the soldier's mouth. A nose clamp forces the wearer to breathe through his mouth, the air being taken in through the canister and any gas chemically filtered by the absorbent chemicals. Outgoing breath passes through a small rubber valve in the face piece.

Effective Defence System
More provision of masks is only the beginning of the defence system, however, as the men must be trained to know when a gas attack is coming and to adjust their masks in six seconds or less. An alarm is given by horns, whistles or rattles. The mask is carried in a knapsack at the left hip, the supporting straps being shortened when a danger zone is entered, so that the mask rests on the chest at the "alert." A soldier merely opens the knapsack, pulls out the flexible hose with the face piece attached, puts the rubber mouthpiece in his mouth and adjusts the hose over his head. The nose clip can be placed in position after the mask is on.

Training the men comprises long drills in adjusting the masks, exhibitions of the use of the masks by wearing them, and, finally, sham gas attacks at unexpected moments. Three separate parts now are comprised in the gas defence service, known as the field supply section, field training section and overseas repair section. The first furnishes the masks, the second teaches its use and the third attends to repairs in France and the replacement of the canisters when the chemicals lose their strength.

Germans Admit Raids on London Only Balk Peace

AMSTERDAM, March 2.—The German Reichstag, after referring the budget to the Main Committee, to-day adjourned until March 12, says a telegram from Berlin.

The "Nieuwe Rotterdamse Courant" prints a long interview with a "personage" who returned recently from a week's visit to Berlin, where he talked with a number of prominent persons, including Baron von Busche-Haddenhausen, Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs; Dr. Drews, Prussian Minister of the Interior; Dr. Solff, Minister for Colonies, and Lieutenant General von Stein, Prussian Minister of War.

The consensus of opinion, the visitor gathered, was that the greatest difficulty in arriving at peace negotiations was the German demand that no relinquish any military advantage without certain that peace negotiations have a chance for success. He adds:

"They agreed perfectly, for instance, with my objections against bombing London, and admitted that for the sake of peace it were better they stopped. Yet, they said, the raids must continue for military reasons."

Commenting upon the memorandum of war aims adopted by the Interallied Socialists at their conference in London recently, the Berlin Socialist newspaper, "Vorwaerts," declares that it points agreed upon, but it adds:

"There is no current opinion in Germany worth mentioning which would be ready to concede any alterations to Germany's disadvantage. A government which was prepared to make concessions to the Entente relative to Alsace-Lorraine or Posen, for instance, would have no prospect of remaining in office. Much will have to be made of peace it were better they stopped. Yet, they said, the raids must continue for military reasons."

Italian Front ITALIAN
ROME, Friday, March 1.—On both sides of the Brenno the enemy's artillery was more active yesterday. Our batteries directed an energetic fire against it, and also concentrated on enemy troops in Val San Lorenzo and north of Della Boretta. On the Asiago Plateau our patrols captured a quantity of arms and munitions. At Ponte di Piave we shelled an ammunition column. Near Nervin British batteries brought down an enemy airplane.

AUSTRIAN
VIENNA, Friday, March 1.—An Italian advance west of the Brenno failed.

Wireless in Norway Reaches America, 3,300 Miles Away
CHRISTIANIA, Friday, March 1.—A new wireless station just erected at Stavanger has succeeded in communicating easily with American stations during trial Regular transatlantic service between Norway and the United States will be started whenever the American government grants permission.

Stavanger is on an inlet of the North Sea on the west coast of Norway, 100 miles south of Bergen. From Stavanger to the nearest American soil is about 3,300 miles.

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Fields To Be Bigger

Recent Accidents, It Is Declared, Will Not Interfere With Nation's Airplanes

WASHINGTON, March 2.—Division of the United States into four great aviation departments was considered to-day by a council of signal corps officers, headed by Major General George O. Squier, chief signal officer.

The proposal most favored would result in the formation of an Eastern department to include the Northeastern and Eastern Military departments, with headquarters at Governor's Island; the Southeastern Department, covering the territory now embraced in that military department, but with headquarters probably at Atlanta, instead of Charleston; the Southern, with headquarters at San Antonio, and the Central, embracing the Central and Western Military departments, with headquarters at Chicago.

A departmental aviation officer with rank of brigadier general would be placed in charge of each.

Not Due to Accidents
The decision to create the departments, with an executive officer in charge of each, will have control of all the training camps, spots and stations within its limits, is declared to have no connection with the recent fatal accidents at flying fields, already announced. Veteran army aviators hold that a certain number of deaths is to be expected and should be discounted in advance. No unusual cause, they point out, when a reconnoitering party is sent across No Man's Land at the expense of a dozen lives to obtain a few prisoners.

W. S. Test Most Severe
The training schedule now in force requires each student to fly nine hours with an instructor before he is allowed to do "solo work." This compares with the four-hour schedule maintained under the regulations of one of the Allies. American flying fields to date have had one accident to the signal corps, every 2,400 flight-hours, against one to every 1,400 in the flying schools of that country.

Official reports received here upon recent accidents show that a large portion of them resulted from unusual atmospheric conditions. At a Southern field only two students were in the air, when a sudden eddy of air, number of gauges force, swept them together. Reports from Memphis are that high winds have prevailed for several weeks, making the instruction relatively much more hazardous.

Another important contributory cause reported in recent fatalities has been the desire of students who have about completed their training to undertake difficult "stunts." Any tendency along this line brings drastic discipline on the head of the flyer when it is reported to his commanding officer.

Mrs. W. B. Leeds Denies She Is Bride of Greek Prince
PARIS, March 2.—Mrs. William B. Leeds, who is now in Montreux, Switzerland, has authorized an absolute denial of reports of her marriage to Prince Christopher of Greece, youngest brother of Constantine, the deposed King. Mrs. Leeds states that she has no intention of being married to Prince Christopher.

"The Daily Sketch," of London, said last month that Mrs. Leeds had been married to the prince. She is the widow of one of the leaders of the tinplate industry of America from whom she inherited about \$14,000,000. She is a daughter of the late William C. Stuart, of Cleveland.

BASE OF AMERICAN FLOTILLA IN BRITISH WATERS, Jan. 25.—About as far up the river from here as Yonkers is from New York is the first United States naval training station in Ireland. It is built along the bank under cliffs, and reminds the Americans of the Palisades of the Hudson. Here naval recruits from all over the United States are being trained for the American destroyers, the most recent arrivals being 200 boys from Pensacola, Fla.

This naval barracks, which some of the older men call Cob Dock, after a part of the Brooklyn navy yard, was formally commissioned with the arrival the other day from the United States of its commanding officer, a commander who came to the navy from Louisiana. He has a staff of a lieutenant, two ensigns, a paymaster and several surgeons, who can take care of several thousand men. They are instructing men still green to things of the sea in methods of fighting the submarines.

To the station, which covers five acres, come the recruits from training stations in the United States. There are regulars, reserves and state militia, but their identity as such is lost here, and they are all alike while the war lasts. Most of them were in civilian life a few months ago. Here and there is a college man; a few were secretaries to railroad presidents, the paymaster himself being the son of a railway magnate who owns a 150-mile line of railroad in North Carolina.

These war-time sailors are housed in a big old granary which was the home of a famous Irish regiment. The men sleep in hammocks swung from the rafters in the ceiling. They eat at long mess tables from enamelled dishes and get the same food as those on the American ships. Revellie is founded at 5:30 o'clock, while outside it is still dark and cold. But these new war-time sailors rise without a murmur, dress, pack their hammocks out of the way and march to breakfast below as if they had been born to it.

The station is shut by a high wall, upon which armed sentries are posted. No liberty is permitted for visits in the village, which boasts fifteen saloons and a shipyard. The only liberty granted the recruits is to the more pretentious village a few miles down the river, which is the base of the American destroyer flotilla.

The state of health of the men continues excellent, despite the raw, damp climate peculiar to this part of Ireland and the sick-bay does a small business.

Weekly Wage? \$3,880,
Rookie Tells Captain

He Happened To Be H. L. Judd, Who Married Mrs. John W. Gates, Jr.

AYER, Mass., March 2.—The routine of collecting biographies of recruits for the National Army was broken in a somewhat startling manner for Captain Richmond P. Harding at Camp Devens to-day.

"What's your average weekly wage?" he asked, wearily, of one of the last of the final quota of the first draft to arrive in camp.

"About \$3,880," came the answer. "Weekly—weekly," repeated the captain.

"About \$3,880," the rookie answered, in the same matter-of-fact way. The captain sank back in his chair. "What's your business?" he inquired. "What are you specially trained in?"

"My business has been living a re-tired life for the past eight years," was the answer. "I am" specially trained in investment."

The "rookie" was Harold L. Judd, of New Britain, Conn., owner of a large factory. A few years ago he married Mrs. John W. Gates, jr., of New York.

German War Vessels
Blown Up by Mines

Amsterdam and The Hague Report Loss Off Vlieland Island

LONDON, March 2.—An Amsterdam dispatch to "The Daily Mail" says that at 1 o'clock on Friday morning a German torpedo boat and two mine sweepers ran into mines off Vlieland Island and were blown up. A German vessel lowered a boat, but the high seas made it impossible to reach the crews and the boat drifted to the island.

The dispatch says it is learned from Ymuiden that a Dutch fishing boat also struck a mine, all on board being lost.

It is reported from The Hague that several small German naval vessels ran into mines six miles off Vlieland. In attempts of Germans to save the crews one boat got into the surf and capsized. Five men from this boat were landed on the island.

According to the "Handelsblad," heavy gunfire was heard in this locality last night.

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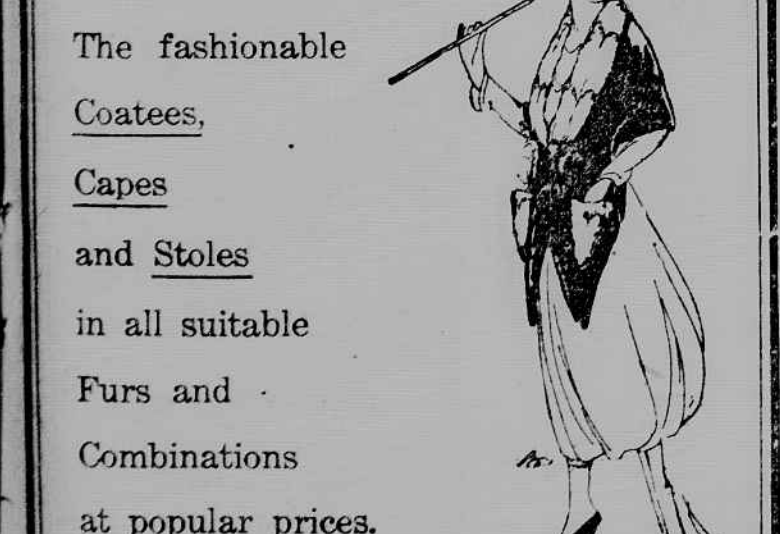
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